

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) Ash collector for smokers, ~~characterized by comprising~~ a bar-shaped container with an opening on one end that is closed by a removable closure body which consists, in full or predominantly, of a material resistant to the glowing ash of cigarettes or cigars.
2. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the closure body is made from metal.
3. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the closure body is made from a metal with high thermal conductivity, ~~such as aluminum, copper or brass.~~
4. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of the preceding claims,~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the closure body has a recess on its end facing the interior of the container.
5. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the recess of the closure body tapers from its end toward the interior of the closure body.
6. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the recess in the closure body has a concave shape.
7. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the recess in the closure body has a conical shape.
8. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the closure body is a plug.
9. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outer surface of the closure body is provided with a groove ~~which is intended~~ adapted to receive a sealing ring.

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10. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that the embers of a cigarette or a cigar, which is pressed against the closure body, ~~and especially into its recess according to claim 4,~~ will be extinguished within a few seconds.

11. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that when a cigar or a cigarette is stubbed out in the a recess of the closure body, the temperature of its outer surface will not rise above 50° Celsius.

12. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein a clip is attached to the closure body.

13. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein the container is made from metal.

14. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the container consists of a metal suited for deep-drawing.

15. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 13 ~~or claim 14, characterized in that~~ wherein the container is made from aluminum or an aluminum alloy.

16. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the container is a molded plastic part.

17. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein the container has an outer diameter of 10mm to 15mm, ~~especially 12mm.~~

18. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein it the container has a length of 10cm to 15cm.

19. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein in addition to a chamber intended to collect ashes

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it further comprises a second chamber that is accessible from the end of the container opposite the closure body.

20. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, comprising an integrated flashlight.

21. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~claims 19-20~~ claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second chamber accommodates a flashlight or parts thereof.

22. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~claim 20 or claim 21~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the end of the container opposite the closure body is provided with a sleeve which is detachably connected with the container and which accommodates a bulb.

23. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 22, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sleeve further accommodates a reflector and a glass pane closing off the sleeve.

24. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 19~~ claim 1, further comprising an integrated cigarette lighter.

25. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in ~~claims 19 and 24~~ claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cigarette lighter is provided in the a second chamber, said second chamber is provided in the container and is accessible from the end of the container opposite the closure body.

26. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 23, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cigarette lighter is protected by a removable cap.

27. (Currently amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cap is pivotably mounted on the container.

28. (New) The ash collector as defined in claim 4, wherein the closure body is made from metal.

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29. (New) The ash collector as defined in claim 3, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper and brass.

30. (New) The ash collector as defined in claim 4, wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that embers of a cigarette or a cigar which is pressed into the recess will be extinguished within a few seconds.

31. (New) The ash collector as defined in claim 3, wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that when a cigar or a cigarette is stubbed out in a recess of the closure body, the temperature of its outer surface will not rise above 50° Celsius.

32. (New) The ash collector as defined in claim 17 wherein the container has an outer diameter of about 12mm.